



Cuckfield Rural District Council

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## **ANNUAL REPORT**

OF THE

# **Medical Officer of Health**

For the Year 1967

BY

### **D. M. RICHARDSON**

M.R.C.S. (ENG.), L.R.C.P. (LOND.), D.P.H. (ENG.), D.I.H. (ENG.)



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Charles Clarke (Haywards Heath) Ltd.  
1968

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# RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL OF CUCKFIELD

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## REPORT

OF

## THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

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HEALTH DEPARTMENT,  
OAKLANDS,

HAYWARDS HEATH.

Tel. No. Haywards Heath 50301.

October, 1968.

*To the: Chairman and Members of the Cuckfield Rural District Council.*

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit the Annual Report for the year 1967.

The corrected birth rate of 14.22 continued to fall slightly, giving a natural increase in population of seventy-six as compared with one hundred for the previous year.

Owing to the small population sample under scrutiny the infant mortality rate (4.30) showed one of its characteristic swings, on this occasion, in a marked downward direction. As a result of a decrease in the still birth rate the perinatal mortality rate fell to 6.44. The perinatal mortality rate for Mid-Sussex as a whole, a more significant figure from the statistical point of view, showed the same downward trend and a figure of 16.09 was recorded as compared with the previous year (23.45). Expressed as a percentage of total live births the illegitimacy rate was 5.81. There were no still births in this group and the infant mortality rate was also nil. There were no maternal deaths during the year.

The percentage of deaths due to cancer of the lung and bronchus again rose for the fourth year in succession, twenty-seven persons having died of this disease in 1967, as compared with twenty-three in the previous year.

### IMMUNISATION AGAINST DIPHTHERIA, WHOOPING COUGH, TETANUS AND POLIOMYELITIS

The following tabulated figures mainly represent "booster" injections given by your Medical Officer of Health to children in the age group 18 to 21

months at the special Immunisation Clinics in Burgess Hill and Haywards Heath, together with those carried out in older children, throughout the Mid-Sussex area, at routine visits to the schools.

#### Immunisation—Combined Mid-Sussex Districts

Diphtheria ..	T.A.F. ..	111
	Diphtheria/Tetanus ..	1,155
	Trivax (Triple) ..	307
Tetanus ..	.. .. ..	30
Others ..	Smallpox ..	60
	Poliomyelitis (Oral) ..	754
		_____
		2,417
Influenza ..	C.U.D.C. (Staff) ..	79

#### INTERNATIONAL CERTIFICATES OF VACCINATION AGAINST SMALLPOX AND CHOLERA

During the year 2,057 certificates were authenticated by the Health Department. The foregoing figure shows a marked but misleading decrease in the number of certificates dealt with, due to gross inflation in the previous year (1966) as a result of exceptional International demand following an outbreak of smallpox in the West Midlands. The work in connection with the authentication of International certificates continued to show an upward trend in 1967 as compared with the years 1963-1965 inclusive.

#### INFECTIOUS DISEASE

Seven hundred and ninety-six cases of infectious disease were notified during the year and, of the total notifications received, 771 were attributed to measles, and three to scarlet fever. There were seven cases of infective hepatitis, four cases of food poisoning and four cases of dysentery.

#### A Case of Typhoid Fever in Cuckfield Rural District

On the 16th February I was informed by a Houseman at Cuckfield Hospital that a nine-year-old Spanish pupil at a Boys' Boarding School in the Rural District, who had been admitted on the 14th February with pyrexia of uncertain origin, was now a typhoid suspect. Although subsequent enquiries showed that the boy had most probably acquired the disease before leaving his home in Madrid on the 17th January, it was necessary to arrange for the collection of specimens from the three Portuguese kitchen staff and also from several boys who had suffered from a mild and non-specific gastro-enteritis at about the same time.

When the diagnosis was confirmed a few days later I interviewed the patient and his mother at Foredown Hospital and learned that, two days before leaving Spain, the former had consumed several oysters at a restaurant in Madrid. Specimens taken from the boy's parents, soon after their arrival in this country during the early stages of the illness, were negative. There were no secondary cases at the school.

N.B. Diagnosed Cuckfield Hospital—notified C.U.D.C. area.

## **Food Poisoning (*Salmonella typhimurium*)**

Three cases occurred at a Boys' Boarding School. Intensive investigations were carried out and, although it was not possible to establish a definite cause all the evidence pointed to knife contamination as the result of the cutting of raw meat in the open kitchen. This practice has now ceased and a separate butchery has been installed together with other improvements.

During the course of the investigations a symptomless carrier of *Salmonella typhimurium* was discovered on the staff of the local bakery. The *Salmonella* was untypeable and this incident appeared to be unrelated to the outbreak at the school. It was, however, necessary to exclude the man concerned from work until bacteriological clearance had been obtained and arrangements were made for the payment of compensation by the Council for a period of three weeks.

## **Sonne Dysentery**

The four cases notified involved two families. On enquiry it was discovered that one of the adults affected was employed as an engineer with a firm at Hove which specialised in the servicing of kitchen equipment. With the approval of the local Medical Officer of Health arrangements were made with the Manager for the man to be placed on administrative work pending bacteriological clearance; an office with separate toilet facilities being placed at his disposal during this period.

## **Suspected Food Poisoning**

A number of persons were taken ill following a wedding reception at a hotel in the Rural District. As so often happens the incident came to our knowledge too late for a complete investigation to be made, but, on the evidence obtained after a thorough enquiry, which included the submission to the Public Health Laboratory of stool specimens from several of the guests, it seemed almost certain that the disease was an acute gastro-enteritis—probably viral in origin. It is significant that the assistant chef responsible for "plating up" the cold chicken on the morning of the reception felt unwell and was sent home by the Manager. The illness which developed was of the same type as that experienced some hours later by the guests, yet other members of the kitchen staff who ate cold chicken which had been cooked at the same time but carved later, were unaffected. It would seem that the chicken may have been the vehicle for the transmission of virus to the guests and, although there was no evidence to suggest that this incident was caused by an organism of the food poisoning groups, its effects were similar.

In view of the prompt action by the Management on this occasion it is difficult to conceive of any measures which could be adopted to prevent a further incident of this type. This is the second occasion in this District in which the ubiquitous, yet still unidentified, virus of so-called "winter vomiting disease" has simulated a food poisoning incident.

## **Leptospiral Jaundice**

The responsible organism in this disease is carried in the kidney of the rat and is harmless to the rat itself. Forty to fifty per cent. of the rat population carry the organism, which leaves the rat's body in the urine and survives only in damp, dark places such as hedgerows, farm buildings, sewers and stagnant water, with the result that farm workers, sewage workers and rodent operators are at risk. Accidental cases have occurred in persons paddling and bathing in rat-infested waters or falling into contaminated mud. The disease is generally contracted by the organism entering the body through a cut or abraded skin.

One of the safety recommendations put forward in recent years by the Institute of Civil Engineers in collaboration with the Ministry of Housing and

Local Government was the suggestion that a card should be issued to each exposed worker giving instructions as to the precautions to be taken against the risk of leptospiral jaundice. After consulting the Surveyors of the three Mid-Sussex districts it was decided to adopt the practice recommended by the Institute of Civil Engineers and a suitable card was prepared for distribution to all exposed workers employed by the Mid-Sussex authorities. In order to increase the effectiveness of these measures, family doctors were asked to record the occupations of exposed workers on the National Health Service Record Cards.

## HOUSING

The number of dwellings included in the Slum Clearance Programme submitted to the Ministry was 277. This number has since been increased to 306 and of these only 4 dwellings (all occupied by elderly persons) remained to be dealt with. Of the 106 houses made fit by owners, 41 were the subject of Improvement Grants.

## SWIMMING BATHS AND BATHING POOLS

There is only one public swimming pool in the area under my supervision. This open-air pool is situated in the southern half of the district. Mains water is used for filling at the beginning of the season and is treated at the pool by pressure filters, aeration and chlorination.

Samples from the above, together with those obtained from swimming pools attached to private schools were submitted for bacteriological examination during the bathing season. In the comparatively rare instances in which samples fell below generally accepted standards advice was given and further samples taken until a satisfactory result was obtained.

## NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948

## NATIONAL ASSISTANCE (AMENDMENT) ACT, 1951

**Section 47:** This Section provides for the compulsory removal from their homes of elderly, infirm or incapacitated persons, who are not receiving proper care and attention. Such persons are often living on their own under poor and insanitary conditions.

At the beginning of October a family doctor drew my attention to a difficult situation which was developing in connection with one of his patients, an elderly widower, who was suffering from advanced cancer of the lung. On visiting I endeavoured to persuade the patient to enter hospital but was quite unsuccessful. With the assistance of the District Nurse and Home Help Organiser an attempt was made to improve the care available under the somewhat inadequate conditions existing at the patient's cottage. Within a few days a rapid deterioration in the condition of the patient took place, leading to an intolerable situation from the nursing angle and, on Sunday, 8th October, the patient, who by this time, was hardly aware of his surroundings, was removed to Cuckfield Hospital, where he died within a few hours.

## W.R.V.S. MEALS ON WHEELS SERVICE

During 1967 a total of 7,779 meals was provided, being an increase of 877 over the previous year. Since the inception of this service in January, 1962, a total of 28,862 meals has been provided.

Great credit is due to the local W.R.V.S. for the steady expansion of this valuable service.

## MEDICAL EXAMINATIONS

During the year medical examinations were carried out for the following authorities:—

Cuckfield Rural District ..	..	..	..	3
Cuckfield Urban District ..	..	..	..	5
East Sussex County Council ..	..	..	..	66

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I would like to express my thanks to Mr. Jones, Senior Public Health Inspector, for his help and co-operation in the work of the department and for the particulars which he has supplied for this report. I also wish to record my appreciation to other members of the staff for their loyal support during the year, particularly Miss Everson, my Secretary.

Miss Everson retired at the end of the year after completing 33 years of service with the Health Department. Miss Everson's services spanned the period of most active growth in the Public Health Services of the area, one of the most important aspects of which was the pioneering, by my predecessor, of diphtheria immunisation throughout Mid-Sussex. The latter scheme was so far ahead of the rest of the country that by the outbreak of war 90% of children in the area had been protected. Miss Everson was responsible for keeping diphtheria immunisation records and for the arrangement of clinics over a period of 23 years, the model scheme being taken over by the County Council in 1958.

Outside the Health Department Miss Everson gave up much of her spare time to community interests, at first in the Civil Defence Corps and later as a member of the Red Cross, in which she reached the rank of Commandant in 1959. All these activities resulted in her becoming a mine of information on the local medical and social services, and Dr. Stott, my predecessor, and I would like to put on permanent record our appreciation of Miss Everson's valuable services to the Health Department and to the local community.

In conclusion I would like to thank members of the Council, particularly the Chairman and members of the Health and General Purposes Committee, for their support and also the officers and staff in other departments for their help during the year.

D. M. RICHARDSON,  
*Medical Officer of Health.*

## PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF

<i>Medical Officer of Health</i>	..	D. M. RICHARDSON, M.R.C.S. (ENG.), L.R.C.P. (LOND.), D.P.H. (ENG.), D.I.H. (ENG.)
<i>(Also Medical Officer of Health to Cuckfield Urban and Burgess Hill Urban Districts and Medical Officer (Part time) to East Sussex County Council)</i>		
<i>Senior Public Health Inspector</i>	..	F. G. JONES, M.B.E., F.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I. <i>Qualified Inspector of Meat and other Foods</i>
<i>Deputy Senior Public Health Inspector</i>	R. S. RELF, F.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.	<i>Qualified Inspector of Meat and other Foods</i>
		<i>Qualified Housing Manager</i>
		<i>Qualified Building Inspector</i>
<i>District Public Health Inspectors</i>	..	H. SHARP, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I. <i>Qualified Inspector of Meat and other Foods</i>
		J. F. TUCKER, M.A.P.H.I. <i>Qualified Inspector of Meat and other Foods</i>
		<i>Qualified Smoke Inspector</i>
<i>Secretary to the M.O.H.</i>	..	Miss G. L. EVERSON
<i>Clerks to the M.O.H.</i>	..	Miss B. P. RACKHAM Miss S. V. HOLMES
<i>Secretary to the S.P.H.I.</i>	..	Miss I. ROBBINS
<i>Clerk to the S.P.H.I.</i>	..	Miss M. DENYER

## STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

### Summary of Statistics for the years:

		<b>1965</b>	<b>1966</b>	<b>1967</b>
Area of the District in Acres	.. ..	68,011	68,011	68,011
Population estimated to middle of year	..	34,980	35,470	35,950
Rateable Value	.. .. ..	£1,129,343 (at 1.4.65)	£1,187,023 (at 1.4.66)	£1,243,121 (at 1.4.67)
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	..	£4,675	£4,935	£5,110
Density of Population (persons per acre)		0.51	0.52	0.53
Number of Houses	.. .. ..	10,516	10,788	11,083
Birth Rate (corrected) per 1,000 population	.. .. .. ..	15.81	14.76	14.22
Death Rate (corrected) per 1,000 population	.. .. .. ..	8.41	8.58	8.44
Infant Mortality Rate	.. .. ..	3.98	10.50	4.30

## VITAL STATISTICS

<b>Live Births</b>		<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
Legitimate	.. .. ..	224	214	438
Illegitimate	.. .. ..	10	17	27
<b>Total Live Births</b>	.. .. ..	234	231	465

Live Birth Rate per 1000 of the estimated population (crude) ..	12.93
Live Birth Rate per 1000 of the estimated population (corrected) ..	14.22
Illegitimate live births per cent. of total live births .. ..	5.81

<b>Still Births</b>		<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
Legitimate	.. .. ..	1	-	1
Illegitimate	.. .. ..	-	-	-
Total Still Births	.. .. ..	1	-	1
Still Birth Rate per 1000 (live and still births)		.. .. ..		2.15
<b>Total Live and Still Births</b>		<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
Total Live and Still Births	.. .. ..	235	231	466
<b>Infant Deaths</b>				
<b>Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age</b>		<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
Legitimate	.. .. ..	2	-	2
Illegitimate	.. .. ..	-	-	-
Total	.. .. ..	2	-	2
Infant Mortality Rates:—				
(a) All infants per 1000 live births	.. .. ..			4.30
(b) Legitimate infants, per 1000 legitimate live births	.. .. ..			4.57
(c) Illegitimate infants, per 1000 illegitimate live births	.. .. ..			0.00
<b>Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks of age</b>		<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
Legitimate	.. .. ..	2	-	2
Illegitimate	.. .. ..	-	-	-
Total	.. .. ..	2	-	2
Neonatal Mortality Rate per 1000 total live births		.. .. ..		4.30
<b>Deaths of Infants under 1 week of age</b>		<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
Legitimate	.. .. ..	2	-	2
Illegitimate	.. .. ..	-	-	-
Total	.. .. ..	2	-	2
Early Neonatal Mortality Rate per 1000 total live births		.. .. ..		4.30
<b>Perinatal Mortality</b>		<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
Still Births and Deaths under 1 week	.. .. ..	3	-	3
Perinatal Mortality Rate per 1000 total live and still births				
(a) Cuckfield Rural	.. .. ..	.. .. ..	.. .. ..	6.44
(b) Mid-Sussex Area	.. .. ..	.. .. ..	.. .. ..	16.09
<b>Maternal Mortality</b>				
Maternal Deaths (including abortion)	.. .. ..	.. .. ..	.. .. ..	Nil
Maternal Mortality Rate per 1000 total (live and still) births				0.00
<b>Deaths</b>		<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
All Causes	.. .. ..	202	187	389
Death Rate per 1000 of the population (crude)	.. .. ..	.. .. ..	.. .. ..	10.82
Death Rate per 1000 of the population (corrected)	.. .. ..	.. .. ..	.. .. ..	8.44

## CAUSES OF DEATH IN CUCKFIELD RURAL DISTRICT

				<i>Males</i>		<i>Females</i>
1.	Tuberculosis, respiratory ..	..	..	..	..	1
2.	Tuberculosis, other ..	..	..	..	..	—
3.	Syphilitic disease ..	..	..	..	..	—
4.	Diphtheria ..	..	..	..	..	—
5.	Whooping cough ..	..	..	..	..	—
6.	Meningococcal infections ..	..	..	..	..	—
7.	Acute poliomyelitis ..	..	..	..	..	—
8.	Measles ..	..	..	..	..	—
9.	Other infective and parasitic diseases ..	..	..	..	..	—
10.	Malignant neoplasm, stomach ..	..	..	3	..	5
11.	Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus ..	..	..	24	..	3
12.	Malignant neoplasm, breast ..	..	..	—	..	9
13.	Malignant neoplasm, uterus ..	..	..	..	..	—
14.	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms ..	..	..	22	..	25
15.	Leukaemia, aleukaemia ..	..	..	1	..	2
16.	Diabetes ..	..	..	2	..	—
17.	Vascular lesions of nervous system ..	..	..	26	..	28
18.	Coronary disease, angina ..	..	..	42	..	42
19.	Hypertension with heart disease ..	..	..	1	..	3
20.	Other heart disease ..	..	..	13	..	30
21.	Other circulatory disease ..	..	..	13	..	13
22.	Influenza ..	..	..	..	..	—
23.	Pneumonia ..	..	..	..	7	10
24.	Bronchitis ..	..	..	..	15	2
25.	Other diseases of the respiratory system ..	..	..	3	..	1
26.	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum ..	..	..	4	..	1
27.	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea ..	..	..	1	..	—
28.	Nephritis and nephrosis ..	..	..	..	..	—
29.	Hyperplasia of prostate ..	..	..	..	1	..
30.	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion ..	..	..	..	..	—
31.	Congenital malformations ..	..	..	4	..	—
32.	Other defined and ill-defined diseases ..	..	..	10	..	9
33.	Motor vehicle accidents ..	..	..	4	..	1
34.	All other accidents ..	..	..	3	..	2
35.	Suicide ..	..	..	..	3	..
36.	Homicide and operations of war ..	..	..	..	..	—
	Totals ..			202	..	187

## MAIN CAUSES OF DEATH IN THE CUCKFIELD RURAL DISTRICT

	1966	1967
(i) Diseases of the heart and circulatory system .. .. ..	169 (44.95 %)	157 (40.36 %)
(Coronary disease) .. .. ..	81 (21.54 %)	84 (21.59 %)
(ii) Cancer (all sites) .. .. ..	69 (18.35 %)	91 (23.39 %)
(Cancer of Lung and Bronchus) ..	23 (6.12 %)	27 (6.94 %)
(iii) Vascular lesions of the nervous system	55 (14.62 %)	54 (13.88 %)
(iv) Respiratory diseases (including tuberculosis) .. .. ..	33 (8.78 %)	39 (10.03 %)
(Respiratory tuberculosis) .. ..	2 (0.53 %)	1 (0.26 %)

### CAUSES OF DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR

Cause	Age
1. Prematurity .. .. .. .. .. .. .. .. ..	1 day
2. Prematurity (weight 2lb. 2oz.) .. .. .. .. .. .. .. .. ..	1 day

### GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

#### LABORATORY FACILITIES

The following Laboratories are utilised for the examination of specimens:

Public Health Laboratory, Brighton

Cuckfield Hospital Laboratory

Public Analyst's Laboratory at Lewes

I would like to express my thanks to the Directors of the above Laboratories for their assistance, particularly Dr. J. E. Jameson, of the Brighton Public Health Laboratory, for his helpful advice on many occasions.

#### AMBULANCE FACILITIES

Cases of infectious disease are removed by one of the East Sussex County Council's ambulances stationed at Haywards Heath Ambulance Station, Bridge Road, Haywards Heath.

#### HOSPITAL ACCOMMODATION FOR INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Twenty-six beds are available at the Goddards Green Hospital for the treatment of cases of infectious disease, twelve of these beds are in a cubicle block and the other fourteen in a block consisting of two main wards and side wards.

A table on page 20 gives particulars of admissions during the year.

#### SMALLPOX

The South-East Metropolitan Regional Hospital Board state that cases of smallpox occurring in this district should be sent to the River Hospitals (Long Reach), Dartford, Kent.

## CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES

\* These Clinics are provided by the Family Planning Association

### **Infant Welfare Centres:**

<b>Ardingly</b>	.. ..	Hapstead Hall	1st and 3rd Thursday Dr. on 3rd Thursday
<b>Balcombe</b>	.. ..	Church Hall <i>(Weighing Centre only)</i>	3rd Wednesday
<b>Bolney</b>	.. ..	Rawson Institute	4th Friday Dr. each session
<b>Copthorne</b>	.. ..	Village Hall	1st and 3rd Tuesday Dr. on 3rd Tuesday
<b>Crawley Down</b>	.. ..	Village Hall	2nd and 4th Tuesday Dr. on 2nd Tuesday
<b>Horsted Keynes</b>	.. ..	Parish Room	3rd Friday
<b>Hurstpierpoint</b>	.. ..	Methodist Hall	1st and 3rd Wednesday Dr. each session
<b>Keymer</b>	.. ..	Congregational Church Hall	2nd and 4th Monday Dr. on 2nd Monday
<b>Scaynes Hill</b>	.. ..	Women's Institute Hall <i>(Weighing Centre only)</i>	2nd Thursday
<b>Slaugham</b>	.. ..	Village Hall, Handcross	3rd Monday Dr. each session
<b>West Hoathly</b>	.. ..	Village Hall	1st Tuesday Dr. each session
<b>Cuckfield</b>	.. ..	Congregational Church Hall <i>(Weighing Centre only)</i>	2nd Friday
<b>Lindfield</b>	.. ..	Congregational Hall	1st, 3rd and 4th Tuesday Dr. on 1st Tuesday

### **Clinics:**

<b>Diphtheria Immunisation</b>	.. ..	Methodist Hall, Hurstpierpoint Village Hall, Crawley Down	3rd Wednesday 2.15 p.m. 2nd Tuesday 2.15 p.m.
<b>Chest</b>	.. ..	Haywards Heath Hospital Cuckfield Hospital	Every Thursday 9.30 a.m. (by appointment) Thursday 2 p.m. Diagnostic
<b>Orthopaedic</b>	.. ..	B.R.C.S. (H.Q.), Paddockhall Road, Haywards Heath	<b>Orthopaedist:</b> 2nd Tuesday 10.30 a.m.-1.0 p.m. <b>Physiotherapist:</b> Tuesday 10.30 a.m.-1.0 p.m. Friday 9.30 a.m.-1.0 p.m. 2.0 p.m.-4.30 p.m.

<b>Speech Therapy</b>	..	E.S.C.C. Clinic, Oaklands, Haywards Heath E.S.C.C. Clinic, Mill Road, Burgess Hill E.S.C.C. Clinic, Royal George Road, Burgess Hill	Tuesday 9.15 a.m.- 3.0 p.m. (by appointment) Mon. 1.30 p.m.-3.0 p.m. (by appointment) Mon. 9.0 a.m.-12 noon (by appointment)
<b>Child Guidance</b>	..	<b>East Grinstead:</b> Moat Road <b>Lewes:</b> Castlegate House <b>Portslade:</b> Old Shoreham Road  <b>Burgess Hill:</b> E.S.C.C. Clinic, Mill Road <b>Crowborough:</b> Mead House, Beacon Road	Every Thursday (by appointment) Every Wednesday (by appointment) Tuesday morning Thursday (by appointment) Every Friday (by appointment) Every Tuesday (by appointment)
<b>Eye Refractions (School Children)</b>	..	Haywards Heath Hospital Sussex Street Clinic, Brighton	Every Friday morning (by appointment) Alternate Thursday mornings (by appointment)
<b>Dental</b>	..	<b>Haywards Heath:</b> E.S.C.C. Clinic, Oaklands <b>Burgess Hill:</b> E.S.C.C. Clinic, Royal George Road <b>East Grinstead:</b> County Dental Clinic, Moat Road	By appointment  By appointment  By appointment
<b>Minor Ailments</b>	..	E.S.C.C. Clinic, Oaklands, Haywards Heath	As required
<b>Cancer Prevention</b>	..	<b>Haywards Heath:</b> E.S.C.C. Clinic, Oaklands  <b>Burgess Hill:</b> E.S.C.C. Clinic, Mill Road  E.S.C.C. Clinic, Royal George Road  <b>East Grinstead</b> Moat Road	Tuesday evenings and Wednesday mornings as necessary (by appointment)  Tuesday mornings and Thursday evenings as necessary (by appointment)  Wednesday mornings and evenings as necessary (by appointment)  Wednesday mornings and evenings as necessary (by appointment)

<b>*Family Planning</b>	..	E.S.C.C. Clinic, Oaklands, Haywards Heath	Every Wednesday 2 p.m.-4 p.m. Dr. each session (by appointment)
<b>*Sub-Fertility</b>	..	E.S.C.C. Clinic, Oaklands, Haywards Heath	1st Wednesday 2.15 p.m.-3.30 p.m. Dr. each session (by appointment)
<b>Venereal Diseases</b>	..	Facilities available at Royal Sussex County Hospital, Brighton	
	<b>Women</b>	..	Tuesday .. 4 p.m.-7 p.m. Thursday .. 10 a.m.-1 p.m.
	<b>Men</b>	..	Monday .. 4 p.m.-7 p.m. Wednesday .. 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Thursday .. 2 p.m.-5 p.m.
	<b>Men and Women</b>	..	Friday .. 11 a.m. Urgent cases only (By appointment direct to V.D. Clinic)
	New patients must attend 1 hour before clinic closes		

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE IN PARISHES

Parish	Food Poisoning	Dysentery	Infective Hepatitis	Scarlet Fever	Puerperal Pyrexia	Measles	Whooping Cough	Totals
Albourne ..	..	..	..	1	..	25	..	26
Ardingly ..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	5
Balcombe ..	..	..	..	..	..	20	..	20
Bolney ..	..	..	..	1	..	27	3	31
Clayton ..	..	..	..	..	..	7	..	7
Cuckfield Rural	..	..	..	..	..	60	..	62
Fulking ..	..	..	..	2	..	13	..	13
Horsted Keynes ..	..	..	..	..	..	4	..	4
Hurstpierpoint ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	102
Keymer ..	..	..	..	4	..	..	..	..
Lindfield Rural	..	..	..	1	..	1	104	106
Newtimber ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Poynings ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Pyecombe ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Slaugham ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Twineham ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
West Hoathly ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Worth ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
<b>Totals ..</b>	<b>..</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>771</b>	<b>796</b>

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE IN AGE GROUPS

Disease	Total cases	Under 1 year										65 and over		Cases admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths
		5-9	10-14	15-24	25-44	45-64	65 and over	106	97	48	18	6	1		
Food Poisoning . .	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dysentery . . . .	4	-	1	-	1	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Infective Hepatitis . .	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	1	3	-	1	-
Scarlet Fever . .	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia . .	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-
Measles . . . .	771	10	68	88	96	105	340	48	12	2	2	-	-	-	-
Whooping Cough . .	5	1	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
Totals . .	796	11	70	89	97	106	344	48	18	6	6	1	1	-	-

TABLE SHOWING VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEARS 1953-1967

Year	Number of Births						Number of Deaths			Infants' Deaths			Natural Increase of Births over Deaths		
	Legitimate			Illegitimate			Birth Rate	M	F	Total	M	F	Total	Infant Death Rate	
	M	F	Total	M	F	Total									
1953	25,020	178	150	328	10	4	14	12.72	136	190	326	12.13	4	26.32	16
1954	25,420	182	151	333	7	9	16	13.73	150	158	308	12.12	-	8.60	41
1955	25,920	163	145	308	4	7	11	12.30	148	160	308	11.88	4	21.94	11
1956	26,490	173	150	323	5	3	8	12.50	146	167	313	11.81	4	21.14	18
1957	27,270	159	166	325	6	4	10	12.28	148	150	298	10.93	-	17.91	37
1958	27,880	173	202	375	14	3	17	15.46	159	181	340	9.75	4	17.85	52
1959	28,750	207	191	398	13	6	19	15.51	147	172	319	9.09	4	19.18	98
1960	29,470	237	226	463	12	4	16	17.38	162	280	442	9.51	5	12.52	37
1961	30,470	236	240	476	8	4	12	16.66	177	187	364	10.27	2	5	10.25
1962	30,770	238	240	478	10	12	22	16.90	190	190	380	10.62	8	3	11
1963	31,000	276	224	500	10	11	21	18.49	220	201	421	11.40	3	6	11.52
1964	33,590	272	258	530	13	7	20	18.00	164	166	330	8.24	2	4	10.91
1965	34,980	245	225	470	13	20	33	15.81	191	168	359	8.41	1	2	144
1966	35,470	244	205	449	14	13	27	14.76	189	187	376	8.58	2	5	10.50
1967	35,950	224	214	438	10	17	27	14.22	202	187	389	8.44	2	2	4.30

TUBERCULOSIS—NEW CASES AND MORTALITY, 1967

Age Groups	New Cases				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females
0 - 1	..	..	..	..	-	-	-	-
1 - 5	..	..	..	..	-	-	-	-
5 - 15	..	..	..	..	1	-	-	-
15 - 25	..	..	..	..	-	-	-	-
25 - 35	..	..	..	..	-	-	-	-
35 - 45	..	..	..	..	-	-	-	-
45 - 55	..	..	..	..	-	-	-	-
55 - 65	..	..	..	..	1	-	-	-
65 and over	..	..	..	..	-	-	1	-
Totals	..	2	-	-	-	-	1	-

**COMPARATIVE TUBERCULOSIS STATISTICS, 1946-67**

Year	New Cases						Deaths						Number on Register at end of Year						
	Pulmonary			Non-Pulmonary			Pulmonary			Non-Pulmonary			Pulmonary			Non-Pulmonary			
	M	F	Total	M	F	Total	M	F	Total	M	F	Total	M	F	Total	M	F	Total	
1946	9	3	12	2	8	10	3	1	4	2	1	3	58	47	105	23	35	58	
1947	13	11	24	3	2	5	4	4	7	1	—	1	62	51	113	25	35	60	
1948	12	9	21	2	2	4	5	—	12	—	1	1	59	51	110	27	34	61	
1949	23	8	31	5	3	8	6	—	6	1	—	1	73	56	129	30	36	66	
1950	13	11	24	3	3	6	1	1	1	—	—	1	81	58	139	30	33	63	
1951	17	12	29	1	3	4	2	1	3	—	—	1	85	66	151	27	36	63	
1952	8	15	23	2	6	8	1	2	3	—	—	1	87	78	165	29	40	69	
1953	9	2	11	9	—	6	8	1	—	1	—	—	78	69	147	25	37	62	
1954	4	1	5	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	70	58	128	14	18	32
1955	7	6	13	—	3	3	4	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	71	58	129	13	20
1956	11	6	17	1	—	1	—	—	2	2	—	—	—	—	80	61	141	10	23
1957	5	2	7	2	—	2	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	79	59	138	9	13
1958	8	5	13	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	94	71	165	10	12
1959	6	1	7	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	96	70	166	11	13
1960	3	4	7	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	95	76	171	12	11
1961	5	1	6	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	97	74	171	11	22
1962	2	4	6	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	96	77	173	11	12
1963	3	5	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	96	75	171	9	10
1964	2	1	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	89	61	150	7	11
1965	5	1	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	89	65	154	7	11
1966	3	1	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	87	62	149	7	11
1967	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	82	54	136	6	11

## GODDARDS GREEN HOSPITAL, HASSOCKS

I am indebted to the Matron for the following particulars of cases admitted during the year:—

Disease	Cuckfield Rural District	Cuckfield Urban District	Burgess Hill Urban District	Other Districts	Total
Food Poisoning .. .. .. ..	-	2	-	-	2
Sonne Dysentery .. .. .. ..	-	1	-	-	1
Streptococcal Throat and Rash .. ..	-	-	1	-	1
Haemolytic Streptococcal Throat .. ..	1	-	-	-	1
Tonsillitis .. .. .. ..	-	-	-	1	1
Scarlet Fever .. .. .. ..	-	-	1	-	1
Observation Scarlet Fever .. .. ..	1	-	1	-	2
Chickenpox .. .. .. ..	1	-	1	-	2
Whooping Cough .. .. .. ..	-	-	-	2	2
Mumps .. .. .. ..	1	1	-	2	4
Observation Parotitis .. .. ..	-	-	-	-	1
Glandular Fever .. .. .. ..	1	-	-	-	1
Infective Hepatitis .. .. .. ..	1	-	-	-	1
Infective Hepatitis (Contact) .. .. ..	1	-	-	-	1
Scabies .. .. .. ..	4	-	-	-	4
Herpes Zoster .. .. .. ..	2	1	-	-	3
Genito Urinary .. .. .. ..	2	2	-	48	52
Varicose Ulcers .. .. .. ..	2	-	3	20	25
Bronchitis .. .. .. ..	1	-	-	-	1
Bronchitis and Asthma .. .. .. ..	1	-	-	-	1
Tuberculosis .. .. .. ..	-	1	1	15	17
<b>Total ..</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>124</b>

The Cubicle Block allowed nineteen different diseases, observation cases or diseases with complications, to be dealt with.

CASES ADMITTED TO FOREDOWN HOSPITAL, PORTSLADE

Disease				Cuckfield Rural District	Cuckfield Urban District	Burgess Hill Urban District	Total
Typhoid Fever ..	..	..	..	1	—	—	1
Sonne Dysentery ..	..	..	..	1	—	—	2
Diarrhoea and Vomiting ..	..	..	..	1	—	—	3
Streptococcal Septicaemia ..	..	..	..	—	—	—	—
Meningitis ..	..	..	..	1	—	—	1
Virus Meningitis ..	..	..	..	1	—	—	2
Observation Meningitis ..	..	..	..	1	—	—	1
Mumps/Meningitis ..	..	..	..	1	—	—	2
Virus Infection with Meningism ..	..	..	..	1	—	—	5
Pyrexia with Meningeal Signs ..	..	..	..	1	—	—	1
Mumps ..	..	..	..	1	—	—	1
Mumps/Encephalitis ..	..	..	..	3	—	—	3
Mumps/Orgnitis ..	..	..	..	—	—	—	1
Bell's Palsy and Mumps ..	..	..	..	—	—	—	—
Measles ..	..	..	..	—	—	—	1
Measles (contact) and Broncho-pneumonia ..	..	..	..	—	—	—	1
Chickenpox ..	..	..	..	—	—	—	—
Observation Whooping Cough ..	..	..	..	—	—	—	—
Virus Infection ..	..	..	..	—	—	—	1
Erythema Multiform ..	..	..	..	—	—	—	1
	Total ..	..	10	6	15	31	

# REPORT OF THE SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

## SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

Mr. F. G. Jones, M.B.E., Senior Public Health Inspector, has furnished the following report on the sanitary supervision of the district.

### **WATER SUPPLY**

#### **(a) Public Supplies**

The district is extremely well supplied with piped water from the public mains and private sources. Out of a total of 11,590 houses and shops, 11,530 have a piped supply into the premises; this gives a percentage of approximately 99.5.

The following table shows the position with regard to the number of houses and shops with a piped supply, in each parish:—

Parish	No. of Premises	Premises with piped supply	
		No.	Estimated population
Albourne .. .. .. ..	208	206	668
Ardingly .. .. .. ..	499	499	1,715
Balcombe .. .. .. ..	551	547	1,793
Bolney .. .. .. ..	380	378	1,273
Clayton .. .. .. ..	600	600	2,269
Cuckfield Rural .. .. .. ..	795	792	2,310
Fulking .. .. .. ..	111	100	337
Horsted Keynes .. .. .. ..	449	449	1,278
Hurstpierpoint .. .. .. ..	1,850	1,842	6,234
Keymer .. .. .. ..	1,981	1,981	6,066
Lindfield Rural .. .. .. ..	582	582	1,958
Newtimber .. .. .. ..	43	43	153
Poynings .. .. .. ..	110	108	322
Pyecombe .. .. .. ..	89	89	384
Slaugham .. .. .. ..	706	703	2,009
Twineham .. .. .. ..	90	90	286
West Hoathly .. .. .. ..	561	561	2,135
Worth .. .. .. ..	1,985	1,960	5,488
<b>Totals .. .. .. ..</b>	<b>11,590</b>	<b>11,530</b>	<b>36,678</b>

During the year samples were taken from each of the public supplies, as follows:—

Supply	Bacteriological	Chemical
Brighton Corporation .. .. .. ..	2	-
Mid-Sussex Water Company (including Weir Wood) .. .. .. ..	15	1
East Surrey Water Company (part of Worth Parish) .. .. .. ..	1	-

(i) All public supplies are sampled at regular intervals for bacteriological examination and chemical analysis.

(ii) The Authority or Companies responsible for the piped supply carry out monthly bacteriological examination on the raw water. All waters are chlorinated after filtration.

(iii) None of the supplies is liable to plumbo-solvent action.

#### (b) Private Supplies

During the year 12 samples were taken for bacteriological examination and one for chemical analysis.

### SANITARY INSPECTIONS OF THE AREA

Total number of inspections under Public Health and Housing Acts including Improvement Grants and Certificates of Disrepair ..	1,215
Infectious disease (including food poisoning)—No. of visits .. ..	189
Water Supplies — „ .. ..	45
Rats and Mice — „ .. ..	2,124
Flies and Vermin — „ .. ..	63
Drainage — „ .. ..	261
Factories — „ .. ..	88
Shops Act — „ .. ..	17
Inns, Hotels and Licensed Clubs — „ .. ..	109
Food Shops and Catering Establishments — „ .. ..	353
Schools (Catering) — „ .. ..	16
Swimming Pools — „ .. ..	20
Agricultural Premises — „ .. ..	3
Piggeries and Poultry Farms — „ .. ..	50
Waste Food Order — „ .. ..	3
Milk Supply — „ .. ..	108
Noise Abatement — „ .. ..	58
Smoke and Dust Abatement — „ .. ..	62
Clean Air Act — „ .. ..	38
Offices, Shops and Railway Premises — „ .. ..	215
Animal Boarding Establishments — „ .. ..	11
Air Pollution Recording — „ .. ..	119
Petroleum Regulations — „ .. ..	183
Hairdressers' and Barbers' Establishments — „ .. ..	7
Moveable Dwellings — „ .. ..	53
	5,410

### MILK SUPPLY

101 representative herd samples of untreated milk taken at farms were examined for the presence of *Brucella abortus*, *M. tuberculosis* and antibiotic content. All samples were satisfactory.

#### School Milks

All the schools are supplied with pasteurised milk.

### CREAM

17 samples of fresh cream were taken from retail shops and submitted for bacteriological and biological examination. All were satisfactory biologically, but seven failed the Methylene Blue test.

## FOOD INSPECTION

During the year the following foods were condemned as unfit for human consumption:—

<b>From Wholesale Stores</b>	Canned Fruit ..	84 tins (658 lbs.)
	„ Vegetables ..	103 „ (540 lbs.)
	„ Meat ..	57 „ (432 lbs.)
 <b>From Retail Stores</b>	 Canned Fruit ..	 1 „ (6 lbs.)
	„ Vegetables ..	11 „ (17 lbs.)
	„ Meat ..	22 „ (172 lbs.)
	Pork ..	73 lbs.
	Offal ..	52 lbs.
	Fish ..	56 lbs.
	Cheese ..	4 lbs.

## FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955, and FOOD HYGIENE (GENERAL) REGULATIONS, 1960

The number and classification of food premises in the area is as follows:—

Type of Premises	Number of premises			
	Total No.	Fitted to comply with Reg. 16	To which Reg. 19 applies	Fitted to comply with Reg. 19
Catering Establishments ..	76	76	76	76
Schools (Private and State)	32	32	32	32
Grocers' Shops ..	68	68	68	68
Sweet Shops ..	16	16	—	—
Butchers' Shops ..	17	17	17	17
Greengrocers' Shops ..	11	10	11	9
Confectioners' Shops ..	11	11	11	11
Wet Fish Shops ..	2	2	2	2
Fried Fish Shops ..	1	1	1	1
Mobile Fish Shops ..	1	1	1	1
Mobile Fried Fish Shops ..	1	1	1	1
Wholesale Stores ..	2	2	2	2
 Totals ..	238	237	222	220

During the year particular attention has been paid to premises in which 'open' food is handled and sold.

The following table shows, in respect of the type of food premises visited, the number of informal notices served.

Type of premises visited		Number of informal notices served
Groceries and Provisions	.. .. ..	5
Confectioners ..	.. .. ..	2
Bakers ..	.. .. ..	2
Bakehouses ..	.. .. ..	1
Cafes and Restaurants ..	.. .. ..	2
Mobile Shops ..	.. .. ..	3
Public Houses and Off Licences ..	.. .. ..	14
Hotels ..	.. .. ..	1
Total	..	30

The repairs and improvements requested in these notices were as follows:—

Cleanse, repair or renew food preparation tables	1
Provide impervious covering to preparation tables	9
Cleanse, repair and redecorate walls and ceiling ..	23
Cleanse floor ..	5
Renew or repair floor ..	5
Cleanse shelves ..	1
Cleanse counter ..	2
Renew tiles in kitchen ..	2
Provide sink, with hot and cold water over ..	1
Renew defective sink ..	2
Renew or repair defective surround to sink ..	1
Renew or repair defective sink waste pipe ..	1
Renew defective draining board ..	3
Provide wash hand basin in kitchen ..	2
Provide handwashing facilities to mobile shop ..	3
Provide nailbrush, soap and towel ..	5
Display "Wash your hands" notices ..	5
Provide adequate sealed receptacle for waste ..	1
Provide additional refuse bin ..	1
Defrost refrigerator and maintain temperature ..	2

All the repairs and improvements have been carried out.

Generally speaking, the standard of hygiene in the premises visited was found to be reasonable. Particular attention was paid to the personal hygiene of staff handling food. At the request of the management the staff of several of the larger grocery retailers have been given talks on food hygiene.

The rapid extension of the use of frozen foods, together with the appropriate cabinet, has been a feature of recent times and to the casual observer this will appear to be the 'end all' of food hygiene, but to the trained observer the disadvantages and dangers become all too apparent, e.g. the appearance of mould, which will grow in temperatures above 18 degrees Farenheit. Bearing this in mind the temperature of frozen food and ice-cream cabinets are taken as a routine from time to time.

In addition, the attention of the proprietor is drawn to the manufacturers' handling code which includes:—

- (a) Regular servicing of cabinet.
- (b) Temperature to be checked daily and under no circumstances shall the temperature be more than 5 degrees Farenheit below the load line.
- (c) Stocks should be rotated.
- (d) Never sell re-frozen stock.

Four samples of ice-cream were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory and were found to be satisfactory.

### Poultry Dressing and Packing

A food hygiene Code of Practice "Poultry Dressing and Packing" was, a few years ago, issued jointly by the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food. This was found necessary as, in recent years, there has been a very great development in the production and marketing of dressed poultry, and new packing stations have been established in many areas to meet the demand.

All premises where poultry is dressed and packed are subject to inspection by the local authority.

The number of table poultry now being produced in this area makes it impracticable for our inspectors to examine every bird or carcase; the alternative recommended by the Ministry of Health—to encourage a system of scrutiny by the staff under a general oversight by our inspectors—has been adopted.

Two particular establishments deal exclusively with turkeys, with a throughput of around 25,000; three of the establishments make use of deep freeze facilities. It is interesting to note that little evidence of disease has been found and the standard of hygiene was, in general, satisfactory.

### Local Authority and State Schools

Inspections have been carried out of all schools in the district and the conditions found at local authority schools were, in the main, very satisfactory. Items needing attention are brought to the attention of the County Medical Officer of Health and quickly dealt with. Conditions at private schools vary—some being extremely satisfactory.

### Homes (for the Elderly) registered under Section 37 of the National Assistance Act, 1948

In all, five homes are registered and all have been inspected under the above regulations. Two are administered by the East Sussex County Council and the remainder by various organisations. The conditions found were satisfactory.

### Other Establishments

Two other establishments, a remand home and a youth centre, were visited; the conditions prevailing were found to be very satisfactory and complied with the standard required under the regulations.

### No. of Food Premises registered under Section 16

No. of premises used for the sale of ice-cream .. ..	108
No. of rooms used for the preparation of sausages .. ..	7
No. of rooms used for the preparation of meat by cooking	5

In all, 48 visits were made to the above registered premises and generally the conditions found were satisfactory.

## General

During the year two food complaints were reported to the Committee; one of these concerned a foreign body in food and the other was a complaint of mould. In the case of the foreign body a warning letter was sent to the firm concerned and in the case of mould it was necessary to prosecute. Fines imposed, together with costs, amounted to £28 8s. Od.

## HOUSING

Action taken during the year was as follows:—

### Housing Act, 1957

No. of houses rendered fit informally	..	..	..	..	35
---------------------------------------	----	----	----	----	----

### Slum Clearance Programme

The number of dwellings included in the programme submitted to the Ministry was 277. This number has since been increased to 306. The following is an analysis of the present position:—

#### (i) Statutory action—Houses dealt with under Section 11 Housing Act, 1936, and Section 16 Housing Act, 1957

(a) No. of dwellings—undertakings not to be used for human habitation	..	..	..	..	85
,, —subject to Demolition Orders	..	..	..	..	17
<hr/>					
					102

The position with regard to the above 102 dwellings is as follows:—

##### (a) Dwellings subject to Undertakings

No. of dwellings still occupied	..	..	..	..	2
,, made fit (Improvement Grant)	..	..	..	..	29
,, made fit by owners	..	..	..	..	15
,, demolished by owners	..	..	..	..	15
,, used for other than human habitation	..	..	..	..	3
,, untenantanted	..	..	..	..	21

##### (b) Dwellings subject to Demolition Orders

No. of dwellings still occupied	..	..	..	..	Nil
,, demolished	..	..	..	..	15
,, made fit	..	..	..	..	2
<hr/>					
					102

##### (ii) Houses dealt with informally

No. of houses demolished in lieu of formal action	..	..	..	..	18
,, made fit by owners	..	..	..	..	106
,, taken out of programme—works carried out bringing dwellings out of this category	..	..	..	..	61
,, closed and used for other purposes	..	..	..	..	13
,, untenantanted	..	..	..	..	2
<hr/>					
					200

Total number of houses dealt with formally or informally .. .. 302

It will be seen that a further four dwellings (occupied by elderly persons) remain to be dealt with to complete the programme.

Of the 106 houses made fit by owners, improvement grants were approved in 41 instances.

## House Purchase and Housing Act, 1959

### Housing Acts, 1961 and 1964—Improvement Grants

#### (a) Discretionary Grants

The first application was approved in April, 1951, and at the 31st December, 1967, the total number of dwellings in respect of which applications have been received was 1,071. This has entailed 13,797 inspection visits, many of which were carried out prior to reporting to Committee and the remainder during the time work was in progress and after completion. The 1,071 dwellings were dealt with as follows:—

No. of dwellings—applications approved .. . . .	1,003
“ —applications not approved .. . . .	22
“ —applications withdrawn before approval .. . .	43
“ —applications awaiting Committee's decision .. . .	3
	1,071

Of the 1,003 dwellings in respect of which applications were approved applications involving 19 dwellings were subsequently withdrawn, making a net total of 984 dwellings. The position with regard to these 984 dwellings is as follows:—

No. of dwellings—works completed and grant paid .. . . .	935
“ —works in hand .. . . .	49
	984

The total amount of grants approved as at 31st December, 1967, was £280,419 and the amount paid out to owners on completion of the works was £260,599. The annual totals are as follows:—

Year	No. of dwellings	Grants approved		Grants paid	
		£	£	£	£
1951	.. 2	.. 444	..	.. 444	..
1952	.. —	.. —	..	.. —	..
1953	.. 4	.. 1,195	..	.. —	..
1954	.. 25	.. 5,660	..	.. 1,007	..
1955	.. 97	.. 19,251	..	.. 8,985	..
1956	.. 52	.. 17,239	..	.. 16,655	..
1957	.. 88	.. 20,602	..	.. 21,394	..
1958	.. 75	.. 19,332	..	.. 19,820	..
1959	.. 125	.. 30,101	..	.. 22,359	..
1960	.. 68	.. 26,593	..	.. 26,030	..
1961	.. 61	.. 17,585	..	.. 19,786	..
1962	.. 51	.. 15,404	..	.. 16,121	..
1963	.. 71	.. 19,968	..	.. 19,286	..
1964	.. 132	.. 40,934	..	.. 22,689	..
1965	.. 75	.. 22,010	..	.. 28,728	..
1966	.. 43	.. 12,829	..	.. 21,881	..
1967	.. 34	.. 11,272	..	.. 15,414	..
Totals	.. 1,003	.. 280,419	..	.. 260,599	..

#### (b) Standard Grants

No. of dwellings—applications approved .. . . .	..	..	..	..	86
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Grants amounting to £8,258 have been paid in respect of 80 properties and in 41 instances the grant was less than the maximum allowed under the Act.

The amenities provided in the 80 dwellings are summarised as follows:—

No. of dwellings provided with bath .. .. .. ..	58
"      "      lavatory basin .. .. ..	70
"      "      hot water system .. .. ..	76
"      "      internal water closet .. .. ..	51
"      "      ventilated foodstore .. .. ..	44

Of the 80 dwellings improved 29 were provided with all five amenities.

## General

The occupancy of the dwellings approved for grant aid (discretionary and standard) and where works have been completed or are in progress, is as follows:—

No. of dwellings—owner occupied .. .. .. ..	436 (40.74%)
"      "—agricultural tenancies .. .. ..	246 (23.00%)
"      "—other tenancies .. .. ..	388 (36.26%)

In 47 instances, following the completion of works, the dwellings were sold and the appropriate portion of the grants repaid.

Purely as a result of grant works, drainage facilities of twelve properties were improved, six being connected to the sewer, five having new septic tank and filter units constructed and one an improved septic tank installed. Fifty-six internal water closets were installed and eleven inadequate water supplies remedied by the provision of a separate service from the main.

The following major works of improvement and repair were carried out during the year under Improvement Grants, General Housing and Public Health:—

No. of houses—connected to the sewer .. .. .. ..	6
"      "—drained to new septic tank and filter .. .. ..	5
"      "—drained to new septic tank or cesspool .. .. ..	1
"      "—bathrooms provided .. .. .. ..	44
"      "—hot water systems installed .. .. .. ..	45
"      "—ventilated foodstores provided .. .. .. ..	42
"      "—new solid floors replacing damp or defective floors .. .. ..	20
"      "—dampness in walls abated .. .. .. ..	18
"      "—additional lighting and ventilation .. .. .. ..	6
"      "—roofs repaired .. .. .. ..	5
"      "—boarded floors renewed (dry rot) .. .. .. ..	4
"      "—internal water closets provided .. .. .. ..	46
"      "—separate mains water service laid on .. .. .. ..	11
"      "—new sinks .. .. .. ..	12

## MOVEABLE DWELLINGS

In all, 53 inspections were made, 22 of which were in connection with itinerant caravan dwellers.

## BATHING POOLS

There is one pool open to the general public in the area and seven sited at schools. In addition, bathing takes place in two large ponds and one river. 21 samples were taken for bacteriological examination, six of which were unsatisfactory and concerned four pools. Upon investigation it was found that the unsatisfactory samples were the result of inadequate chlorination. This was remedied and all subsequent samples taken were satisfactory.

## DISEASES OF ANIMALS (WASTE FOODS) ORDER, 1957

The six premises licensed under the above Order have been inspected and the boiler plants, vats and bins were in accordance with existing licences; conditions generally were satisfactory. The premises visited varied from the keeping of 50 to 3,000 pigs. There has been a tendency recently for the use of swill for pig feeding to decline.

## OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

During the year 46 premises received one or more general inspections.

As a result of these inspections 30 contraventions of the Act were found, as follows:—

Cleanliness .. . . . .	4
Overcrowding .. . . .	—
Temperature .. . . . .	3
Lighting .. . . . .	4
Sanitary conveniences .. . . . .	4
Washing facilities .. . . . .	5
Clothing accommodation .. . . . .	—
Seats (sedentary workers) .. . . . .	—
Floors, passages and stairs .. . . . .	8
Fencing exposed parts of machinery .. . . . .	2
First aid—General provision .. . . . .	—
	30

There were no prosecutions during the year and as regards accidents, only three were reported, none of which was fatal or of a serious nature.

**Annual Report.** As requested by the Ministry of Labour the following report has been forwarded:—

TABLE A—Registrations and General Inspections

Class of Premises	No. of premises newly registered during the year	Total No. of registered premises at end of year	No. of registered premises receiving one or more general inspections during the year
Offices .. . . . .	3	44	4
Retail Shops .. . . .	9	116	27
Wholesale shops, warehouses .	—	2	—
Catering establishments open to the public, canteens ..	6	25	14
Fuel storage depots .. .	—	5	1
Totals ..	18	192	46

TABLE B

No. of visits of all kinds by Inspectors to registered premises .. 217

**TABLE C—Analysis of Persons Employed in registered premises by workplace**

<i>Class of workplace</i>	<i>Number of persons employed</i>
Offices .. . . . .	294
Retail shops .. . . .	374
Wholesale departments, warehouses ..	45
Catering establishments open to the public ..	153
Canteens .. . . .	24
Fuel storage depots .. . . .	16
	—
	906
Total males .. . .	401
Total females .. . .	505

## INFESTATION

63 visits were made as a result of complaints and the following treatments were carried out:—

No. of premises treated for fly infestation ..	14
,,          ,,          cockroaches ..	1
,,          ,,          ants .. . .	1
,,          ,,          fleas .. . .	2

## INFECTIOUS DISEASE

In all, 189 visits were made, compared with 77 during the previous year.

## FACTORIES

During the year 88 visits were made and no statutory action was found to be necessary.

## 1. INSPECTIONS FOR PURPOSES OF PROVISIONS AS TO HEALTH

Premises	No. on Register	Number of		
		Inspe- ctions	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities .. . .	3	3	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) to which section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority .. . .	98	85	6	—
(iii) Other premises in which section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises) .. . .	—	—	—	—
Totals .. .	101	88	6	—

## 2. CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND

Particulars	No. of cases in which defects were found				No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remained	Referred To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (S.1) ..	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2) ..	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature (S.3) ..	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6) ..	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient ..	1	1	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	5	5	-	2	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to out-work) ..	-	-	-	-	-
Totals ..	6	6	-	2	-

## OUTWORK (Sections 133 and 134)

Nature of work	No. of out-workers in August list required by Sect. 133 (1) (c)	No. of cases of default in sending list to the Council	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises	Notices served	Prosecutions
Wearing apparel— Making etc. .. Cleaning and washing ..	9	-	-	-	-	-

## HAIRDRESSERS' AND BARBERS' ESTABLISHMENTS

Conditions in general, cleanliness in particular, were found to be satisfactory, only minor infringements coming to light, which were attended to forthwith.

## CLEAN AIR ACT, 1956

Under Section 10 (chimney heights) of the above Act, one application was received and the applicants agreed to increase the height of the chimney to our requirements.

# NATIONAL SURVEY OF AIR POLLUTION

The semi-automatic sampling units are stationed at Balcombe, one in the centre of the village and the other on the outskirts, well away from habitation. Visits are made weekly and titrations made to ascertain the amount of sulphur dioxide in the atmosphere, whilst the filter pads are examined by reflectometer to measure solid matter in the atmosphere. The information is passed on to the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research.

## RODENT CONTROL

One operative (with a small van) is employed and the number of private dwellings treated this year showed a decrease on the previous year (287 compared to 334).

In the case of trade premises the cost of treatment is recovered; accounts for the year under review amounted to £54 5s. Od.

Details of inspections and treatments by the Rodent Operator are appended under the three classifications. In addition, of course, the Public Health Inspectors during the course of routine visits to various premises—particularly food premises—are concerned to know if infestations exist and if so that action is taken.

## Private Dwellings

No. of dwellings surveyed or visited as a result of notification ..	335
"      where treatment was carried out .. ..	287
Total number of treatments carried out to private dwellings ..	305
"      visits to private dwellings .. .. ..	1,341

## **Business Premises**

No. of food shops surveyed or visited as a result of notification..	6
,, food shops where treatment was carried out .. ..	6
,, catering establishments (including hotels and schools) .. ..	
surveyed or visited as a result of notification .. ..	21
catering establishments where treatment was carried out .. ..	20
,, other premises surveyed or visited as a result of notification .. ..	14
,, other premises where treatment was carried out .. ..	13
,, farms surveyed or visited as a result of notification .. ..	88
,, farms where infestations were found: In survey .. ..	18
By notification .. ..	3
.. ..	21
,, farms where treatment was carried out .. .. ..	3
Total number of treatments carried out at business premises .. ..	50
,, visits to business premises .. .. ..	294

## Council Property. Sewage Works, Refuse Tips, etc.

Refuse tips in particular are attractive to rats and it is difficult to keep them entirely rat free. The permanent "Warfarin" baiting points, however, have been effective in preventing any large-scale build-up between main treatments.

## PUBLIC CONVENIENCES

Following my report in 1965 on the conditions prevailing in public conveniences in the district, the Council decided to increase the payment to the Parish Councils and to provide cleansing equipment and materials.

Routine inspections have been made of all public conveniences and all have been maintained satisfactorily, except that at a beauty spot in the South

of the district complaints of conditions were substantiated and a somewhat complicated position as to responsibility was resolved by the Council providing assistance to the licensee of the premises involved.

As a result of the revised payment scheme to Parish Councils, instituted in 1965, there is no doubt that conditions have improved.

#### DETAILS OF COMPLAINTS RECORDED

Overflowing cesspools	..	..	..	..	3
Drainage	..	..	..	..	14
Housing defects	..	..	..	..	5
Rats and mice	..	..	..	..	403
Fly infestation	..	..	..	..	16
Unsatisfactory living conditions	..	..	..	..	1
Sanitary accommodation	..	..	..	..	22
Keeping of pigs or poultry	..	..	..	..	3
Dust and smoke nuisance	..	..	..	..	7
Noise nuisance	..	..	..	..	10
Miscellaneous	..	..	..	..	21
					—
					505
					—

The tendency noted in recent years for the public to be more inclined to make complaints continues. Many of these can be disposed of by the office staff at the time of the complaint; others are referred to the Inspector concerned. These have to be investigated, but in many cases are found to be either semi-frivolous or not anything with which a local authority can deal.







